

the day; and I will return to the floor to inform the body, as things develop, of any additional information that might affect the manner in which they conduct their affairs today.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. ARMEY. I would be happy to yield to the gentleman from Michigan.

Mr. BONIOR. I would ask the majority leader what time he anticipates that we would resume business today.

Mr. ARMEY. I can only say to the gentleman that it is my anticipation that that could be at 5 or 6 o'clock tonight. Certainly I should expect that by that time I would have enough information to, if we do not call the Members back in for such business, at least advise Members further on what the schedule would be for the rest of the day and the rest of the week.

Mr. BONIOR. If the gentleman would continue to yield, it is my understanding also that the Senate has decided that they will not be in today, tomorrow, and the rest of the weekend. If that in fact is the case, at least that body not doing any business, what legislation could we put forward that would relieve the impasse that we are in?

It seems to me that the fastest and the best way to do that would be to take up the resolution by the majority leader of the Senate, Senator DOLE, and pass that and get this Government back to work.

Mr. ARMEY. I thank the gentleman for his suggestion. Let me just say there are a very broad range of things that will be under discussion, and we will be able to make a report later in the day.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Would the gentleman yield?

Mr. ARMEY. I would be happy to yield.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. I thank my colleague from Texas for yielding, and certainly I appreciate and support the minority whip on his comments.

I would like to indicate that I filed yesterday House Joint Resolution 155 that is a clean continuing resolution with several original cosponsors that would open the Government until January 19. I would like to know if the majority leader would allow a unanimous-consent request for that to be brought up on the House floor so that we could discuss that and debate that opening of the Government until January 19.

Mr. ARMEY. I thank the gentleman for her inquiry. I can only say that at this time I am not prepared to entertain such a request.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Well, I thank the gentleman if he would consider it. I think that we have certainly an opportunity for bipartisan direction on this and support on this. I thank the gentleman.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will first entertain 1-minutes, if

any Member wishes to give a 1-minute; and then we will move to special orders without prejudice to resumption of business.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. FOGLIETTA. Mr. Speaker, I was detained in my district in Philadelphia yesterday afternoon. I would have voted "present" on the quorum call. I would have voted "no" on the motion to table the motion on the Chair's ruling, rollcall No. 2; and I would have voted "no" to override the President's correct decision to veto the Defense authorization bill, rollcall No. 3.

NEGOTIATING FOR A BALANCED BUDGET

(Mr. FOLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, we are here today because we want to open the Federal Government. Our side is not looking to hurt Federal employees. I just want people to recognize that we are in a very, very difficult time of trying to balance the Federal budget. I think the other side needs also to recognize that we are making some progress.

President Clinton the other day decided that he would support a reduction in the capital gains tax, something that the other side has called "a tax cut for the rich." The President now agrees, and I think it is incumbent, with the President's assurance that he will support a capital gains tax, that we give a little, that we work to negotiate, that we seek to reopen the Government.

The bottom line is a 7-year balanced budget, CBO, OMB, make sure they are real numbers, honest numbers that the American public can agree to, and we can resolve the stalemate here in Washington. But the American public, both Democrats and Republicans, universally agree that a balanced budget can and should be done in 7 years.

CONGRESS SHOULD NOT BE EXEMPT FROM HARDSHIPS

(Mr. BROWDER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BROWDER. Mr. Speaker, I do not believe that the President and Members of Congress should be exempt from the same hardships that others endure. If we are unable to pay Federal employees, then we should not be able to pay ourselves during a shutdown. Like some other Members of this House, I have introduced legislation to prevent the President and Members of Congress from collecting paychecks during Government shutdowns, and I invite my colleagues to join me as a cosponsor of H.R. 2671.

It is not right that Federal employees should be made to suffer this outrage alone. Maybe a pay freeze would make the President and Congress take the situation more seriously. Cosponsor H.R. 2671.

PRESIDENT SHOULD SIGN APPROPRIATIONS BILLS

(Mr. YOUNG of Alaska asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, you have just seen the House uphold the President's veto, and may I say that the minority side again has shut down the parks, the refugees, the monuments. It is the President who has not acted appropriately.

This is a body of two Houses and conferences, and we reached the right decision. We sent the bill to the President. He alone has shut down the parks. He alone has shut down the monuments. He alone is causing the pain, and it is time for the American public to say, Mr. President, sign the bills that Congress sends to you.

For those of you on the minority side, you are no longer in the majority, you are in the minority. So let us tell the truth. Let us have the President sign these bills. We will send them to him.

Mr. President, let us put the people back to work. It is your fault; it will continue to be your fault. Let us think about this country instead of the election in 1996.

PASS A CONTINUING RESOLUTION TO OPEN GOVERNMENT

(Mr. DINGELL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, it is now 3 months and a few days since the fiscal year closed and since the Congress had a responsibility to enact a new national budget and to adopt some 13 appropriations bills. None of that has been done.

My Republican colleagues are anxious to tell us how the President can get the country back to work. Well, it is very simple. We can get the Government going again by the simple expediency of continuing the negotiations and by seeing to it that a continuing resolution in the proper form has been passed.

Our Republican colleagues have told us what they are going to do. The Speaker himself said this: I do not care what the price is, I do not care if we have no executive offices and no bonds for 30 days. Not this time. He said he would shut the Government down and he has done so. Federal employees, citizens, everyone else is hurting because of this consequence.

My advice is, let us not slink out of town like a bunch of skulkers; let us pass a continuing resolution and get about the business of the country.